

justice system, and also dedicated his life to his family.

Judge Wellford started serving his community in our great country at a young age. Like so many of his generation, the Greatest Generation, Harry served our Nation fighting in the Pacific theater during World War II. After serving our Nation overseas, Harry Wellford returned to his home State of Tennessee to obtain his law degree from Vanderbilt University.

In the 1960s, a turbulent time for our Nation and for Memphis, Harry Wellford was an active member of the biracial Memphis Relations Committee, serving for the betterment of the Memphis community.

It was during this time that Harry Wellford became politically active, leading the west Tennessee efforts for Howard Baker's campaign for the United States Senate; and then, in 1970, managing the Statewide campaign for his good friend, Winfield Dunn, to become Governor of Tennessee.

Harry had a good and successful law practice and was well-regarded in the legal community. It was for these reasons that Harry was nominated for a Federal judgeship in 1970 by then-President Richard Nixon. Judge Wellford was unanimously confirmed as district court judge. Later, President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge Wellford for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, to which he was confirmed.

Judge Wellford had a long and distinguished career on the bench. A good friend of Judge Wellford was Judge Julia Gibbons, who currently serves on the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and, in 1982, replaced Judge Wellford on the district court when he was elevated to the appellate court. Commenting on him yesterday, Judge Gibbons said: Harry Wellford was one of the people we most admire to become; he was my friend; his touch with people emanated in everything he did in life.

Madam Speaker, Harry and his wife, Katherine, were members of Idlewild Presbyterian Church before she passed away. They loved to travel, and he enjoyed spending his free time playing tennis and golf. Despite being a well-distinguished judge and a political reformer for the State of Tennessee, what mattered most to Harry was his family.

Judge Wellford's favorite song was "Eternal Father Strong to Save," more commonly known as "The Navy Hymn." So appropriate for him and for his generation.

Indeed, Harry Wellford will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Today, Roberta and I are thinking about Harry and his five children: Harry, Jr.; Beasley; Buck; Kate; and Allison.

Harry Wellford, thank you for your service to our great Nation.

THE EXONERATED FIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, yesterday, April 19, marked the 32nd anniversary of a terrible assault, a sexual assault in Central Park that marked the history and marked really the story of New York City.

But it was also one that resulted in the wrongful arrest and conviction of five young Black and Latino boys for a crime that they did not commit. For years, they were known as the Central Park Five. But after years of injustice and now long after being exonerated, they are now known as the Exonerated Five.

These young men were minors. They were really young boys who were innocent of every single crime they were charged of, and still spent from 6 to 13 years behind bars. They have faced a horrendous story.

They have names. They have faces. They have first names and last names, and they are: Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana, and Korey Wise. They will be here in the Capitol, Madam Speaker, tomorrow.

Each one of these young men were deprived of their childhoods, of their innocence, and, most important, of their future. Racial bias and bigotry were at the crux of these young men being deprived of their civil liberties. It is an old tale.

These young men aren't alone in their stories. They are the stories of so many young Black men, Brown men, and Black and Brown young women in our country. As we brace for a court decision, Madam Speaker, they will be visiting the Capitol as free men tomorrow.

But this isn't a story just of misfortune. It is also a story of resilience, the resilience of little boys who were turned into men far too soon; the resilience of a community that never stopped fighting for justice, including grassroots organizing and Council Member Bill Perkins; and the resilience of those that continue to fight today, continue to fight for change, and continue to fight for a new just criminal justice system.

This is an opportune debate, Madam Speaker, as we brace for a court decision that we hope will be just and that the Nation will be in peace; a criminal justice system that, today, often criminalizes far too many Black and Brown young people.

We see stories like theirs replay in the evening news each and every day. So we must never forget. When we see another Black and Brown young man being targeted, pulled over, handcuffed, shot to death in the street, knees on their necks, all while they are innocent, we know that this is not justice.

That is why we need to continue in our fight transforming policing in our country. We know that is not justice. We cannot allow law enforcement to get away with use of excessive force on many young people across this country and ruining their futures. We know that is not justice.

End the choke hold. End the no-knock warrants. Transform our criminal justice system. End over-policing of Black and Brown people. Abolish the death penalty. Dismantle the institutions that are rooted in white supremacy.

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No one should have to lose their life or be robbed of their future, Madam Speaker, because we didn't step up and fix our broken system. We know that is not justice.

Madam Speaker, 32 years ago, five young men from Harlem were robbed of their future, but alas they rose above and stand tall today as leaders, advocates, and activists fighting tirelessly to reimagine how we see justice in our country. They have given back to their communities and to our country, and we thank them for their perseverance, for using their voices for change and for coming here to this Capitol tomorrow.

I hope that we use this anniversary on both sides of the aisle as a reminder of how much work still needs to be done to transform our institutions to serve every single one of us.

HONORING JOANNE POWELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of Mrs. JoAnne Powell, a pillar of the San Angelo community and one of the most distinguished public servants in the U.S. House of Representatives.

JoAnne served the constituents of the 11th District of Texas for over 35 years in the San Angelo office. During this time, she solved thousands of cases with Federal agencies, helped thousands of people, and was the eyes and ears of the office on the ground and throughout our district.

Her pride and joy in mentoring hundreds of men and women who would later go to service academies truly changed our Nation and our military service. She trained four Congressmen over her tenure: TOM LOEFFLER, LAMAR SMITH, MIKE CONAWAY, and now myself. It has been a priceless honor to have her mentorship and her guidance as I begin my journey in Congress.

On top of her congressional service, the influence she and her beloved husband, Colonel Powell, have had on our community cannot be overstated. She married her childhood sweetheart, Charles Powell, in December 1954, just months after his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy. Charles would go on to become a colonel in the U.S. Air Force and the two would take a long journey and a successful journey in service to this country before settling in San Angelo in 1980 when Colonel Powell became the wing commander of Goodfellow.

At that time, the base was scheduled for closure. Both Colonel Powell and

JoAnne were instrumental in making sure that that mission of training our intelligence personnel in the Air Force, the Marines, the Army, and the Navy continued to become one of the most important in the United States.

When she settled in San Angelo, JoAnne became one of the most involved members of the Concho Valley community and received many honors for serving on boards and for her philanthropic and organizational leadership. She was the epitome of service before self, working hard and handling case-work right up until the week before she passed away.

She genuinely cared for every single person and showed Christ's love to everybody she encountered. I cannot express how great this loss is to our team and the entire 11th District.

JoAnne and Colonel Powell, we will miss you.

HONORING GREGORIO GUTIERREZ

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and the service of Gregorio Gutierrez, a man with a servant's heart, a strong faith in God, and an unmatched ability to connect with all sorts of people.

Born in Mexico, Gregorio came to the United States in 1984; married his wife, Araceli, in 1990; and earned his citizenship in 2000. He followed his passion and founded Conexion San Angelo, the area's first and only bilingual news organization. Since then he has expanded throughout west Texas, and his operation still lives today.

He was an amazing man with a strong legacy that will live on through his wife, Araceli; his son, Ricardo; and all who know him.

San Angelo has honored Gregorio and his family with Gregorio Gutierrez Day which will fall every year on January 23. His family should be proud of his amazing legacy and his service to the Spanish-speaking community, the members of San Angelo, and all of the Concho Valley.

HONORING J.C. CAMPBELL

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of J.C. Campbell, a valued member of the Granbury community who passed away on March 30, 2021.

He served our country admirably in the U.S. Navy during the Korean war aboard the USS *Frank E. Evans*. After coming home, he met and married Sylvia, the love of his life, at North Texas State, and they moved to Granbury in 1960 and have called it home ever since.

He has given much of himself to our community with positions on the Granbury City Council, the volunteer fire department, the Granbury Masonic Lodge, the Bluff Dale Lodge, and as president of the USS *Frank E. Evans* Association, helping to tell the story of the ship he once sailed aboard.

He was an incredible friend to students and staff and a regular fixture at school board meetings. He was a mentor to many and known as the community's biggest cheerleader.

Madam Speaker, I know his family and friends will miss him terribly, and

his loss will be felt deeply in Granbury and throughout the 11th District.

Thank you for your service, J.C.

HONORING THE LIPAN GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Lipan girls basketball team who recently won the AA State Championship in Texas.

To Coach Amber Branson and the entire team, congratulations on yet another victory and yet another State championship.

RECOGNIZE THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, an open letter to President Joseph Biden:

Mr. President, in just 5 days, the world will mark the 106th anniversary of the beginning of the Armenian genocide, the systematic murder and displacement of 1.5 million Armenian women, men, and children by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923. This will be the first April 24 of your Presidency and your first opportunity to follow through on your promise to recognize the genocide and your decades of leadership on this issue.

On behalf of hundreds of thousands of Armenian Americans, the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of genocide survivors, I ask you to keep that promise and recognize the Armenian genocide.

The facts of the genocide are not in serious dispute. They were recorded in real time by American diplomats who lacked a name for the barbaric and systematic extermination of the Armenian people but knew that it was without precedent in human history. Millions of Armenians were beaten, raped, killed, and marched across deserts by the Ottoman Empire.

From the blood and rubble, the Armenian people survived. Tens of thousands of orphaned children owe their lives to the generosity of Americans who created the Near East Relief Foundation. Those children and their descendants crossed the ocean to build lives in Los Angeles and across the Nation.

You know these facts well, and you have spoken about them directly, including as a candidate for President. As President, it is now in your power to help right decades of denial and in so doing give meaning to your statement last year when you acknowledged the genocide and said that silence is complicity.

As a candidate and now as President, you have spoken of your commitment to human rights. You have spoken of an America who leads not by example of our power, but by the power of our example. If that principle is to have meaning, we cannot waver from it just because it may be inconvenient.

The word genocide is significant because genocide is not a problem of the past, it is a problem of today, including

in Xinjiang where Uighurs face a relentless campaign by the Chinese Communist Party to wipe out their culture. And it is a danger today in Artsakh where Turkey assisted Azerbaijan in making war on the Armenians again, and in so doing, threaten another potential genocide. What a comfort it would be to the perpetrators of crimes against humanity in the present day if the most powerful nation on Earth could be cowed into silence about the events of a century ago.

In recognizing the genocide, you will be joining both the House and the Senate who voted overwhelmingly in 2019 to do so.

Mr. President, we must not resort to euphemisms or half-truths. The murder of 1.5 million Armenians was an atrocity—that is surely true—but it was more than that. The act of seeking to destroy a people and a culture is a different kind of evil, and it was not until Raphael Lemkin coined the term genocide that we had a word to describe it.

Millions of Armenians, in Yerevan and across the world, tens of thousands of my constituents, Mr. President, will look to you later this week to see if you will join leaders in France, Germany, the European Union, the Vatican, and in 49 States in recognizing the genocide.

It is my deepest wish that you will speak the truth in all of its horror and recognize the Armenian genocide.

HONORING JEN DAULBY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of ILLINOIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in a bittersweet time in my career here in Congress because it is a time I get to bid farewell to somebody who has been with me since day one. Because she has floor privileges, she is sitting behind me right now and is going to be very embarrassed because I am going to talk about her.

As you can see here, Madam Speaker, this is my longtime chief of staff and staff director of the House Administration Committee, Jen Daulby, and her daughter, Reagan, standing in the Capitol rotunda.

I first met Jen in Illinois when she was a young intern for the State of Illinois one summer. Little did I know that a few years later I would be running a campaign for my former boss, Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS, and I would hire a field office manager who just graduated law school to work out of our Collinsville, Illinois, campaign office. I realized very, very quickly she had opinions of her own—something that in political campaigns sometimes are a little difficult because as a campaign manager, I wanted to be right all the time. But she always taught me: get this stuff done and get me the information I need so I can do my job.

Jen Daulby sitting behind me was a pain in my butt during that campaign.